

**Department of Public Works and Transportation
Montgomery County, Maryland**

DIVISION OF SOLID WASTE SERVICES



A tenant from a local office building receives information on their recycling program from DSWS staff.

***MONTHLY REPORT
DECEMBER 2002***



Printed on Recycled and Recyclable Paper

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OVERVIEW

Tonnage at a Glance

The following table shows key material flows during the current month, fiscal year to date (FY Total), and current calendar month in the two prior fiscal years. (County fiscal year 2003 began July 1, 2002.)

FACILITY	Dec FY 03	FY 03 Total	Dec FY 02	Dec FY 01
Materials Recovery Facility ⁽¹⁾	7,847 tons	43,823 tons	6,629 tons	6,799 tons
Brunswick Landfill Facility ⁽²⁾	16,812 tons	120,082 tons	16,131 tons	10,723 ⁽⁴⁾ tons
Resource Recovery Facility ⁽³⁾	51,556 tons	314,207 tons	31,645 tons	40,316 tons
Yard Trim Compost Facility	17,648 tons	43,936 tons	14,696 tons	8,218 tons

⁽¹⁾MRF tons reported are outgoing.

⁽²⁾This category only addresses waste sent to the landfill for disposal. It does not include rubble that is recycled.

⁽³⁾RRF tonnage refers to tons burned (processed). Waste shipped from the Transfer Station but not burned is in the pit and is not included in the tonnage presented here.

⁽⁴⁾ Does not include 2,454 tons of ash sent to American Ash Recycling pilot program in December 2000.

Revenue Analysis and Systems Evaluation – During December, program staff:

- Researched and entered 743 new properties billing characteristics into database;
- Researched 10 inquires regarding solid waste fees on the property tax bill;
- Processed 8 vacancy refunds and received 19 new vacancy refund requests;
- Prepared monthly update of collection service house counts;
- Updated street listing maps;
- Continued to research solid waste fee abnormalities in the property tax database;
- Processed 5 billing correction changes in the TXA 170 system;
- Continued analysis on nonresidential properties to support new charge rates;
- Advanced appeals processing to 95% complete (some site inspections needed);
- Mailed invoices for all tons accepted at Transfer Station on credit accounts during November;
- Balanced Hauler Billing System to FAMIS exactly and prepared journal entries for Finance;
- Worked with several individual haulers on various problems;
- Set up two new hauler credit accounts, and fielded inquiries from new haulers;
- Processed 38 corrections to Transfer Station data;
- Worked on new wire transfer website procedures;
- Completed FY02 county-wide recycling detail diagram for web posting;

- Updated private collections pricing database with FY03 appeals information;
- Continued to assist with improvements of internal controls for Transfer Station cash management;
- Worked with Department of Finance to improve Fiscal Health spreadsheet;
- Gathered additional data to assist with leaf vacuuming cost allocation for rates;
- Continued modeling private waste flow relationship to regional tipping fees;
- Updated and mailed 6-month reporting forms and notice to all licensed haulers;
- Submitted Team Recognition Award for hauler billing system development team;
- Assisted with solid waste revenue bonds refinancing project; and
- Otherwise assisted with FY04-09 budget planning process.

CITIZEN COMMITTEES

Facilities Implementation Group – FIG met on November 12th. Ten FIG members, five County staff, five contract staff and two residents of the area were in attendance. Topics discussed included monitoring done by DEP at the facilities and the FY03 Master Plan Budget. The next FIG meeting will be held on January 14, 2003. Topics on the agenda include the Chairman's report on the November meeting with the County Executive, the Waste Disposal Permit and the HCL Emission at the RRF.

Solid Waste Advisory Committee – SWAC met Tuesday, December 3rd. Eleven SWAC members, five County staff and two guests were in attendance. SWAC is scheduled to have its annual meeting with the County Executive at 9 p.m. on Monday, January 6, 2003. SWAC received a presentation on the County's Waste Reduction, Household Hazardous Waste and Eco-wise Programs.

COLLECTIONS

Refuse – There were three disruptions to service during the month of December; snow on December 5th and ice on December 11th postponed all collections and required a slide schedule ending on Saturday of each week. We also had a slide schedule for the Christmas holiday week.

Contractor Performance – During the month of December, DSWS received 561 complaints; 215 more complaints December 2001, which numbered 346. Many of the complaints were due to confusion over the collection slides because of the snow storm on December 5th, the ice storm on December 11th and the holiday slide for December 25th, resulting in collections on three out of the four Saturdays in December.

Customer Service – DSWS received 10,016 incoming calls and 268 follow-up calls were made for quality check. There were 821 blue bins delivered and 285 e-mail requests handled by the Customer Service Staff.

Enforcement Actions – Two citations were issued for violations of the County's Solid Waste Laws:

One citation	Collection without a valid collector's license	\$500
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One citation Fail to screen container from view at street level \$500

Five NOV's were issued for violations of the County's Solid Waste Laws:

Three NOV's Improperly stored or permitted solid wastes to accumulate
One NOV Collection without a valid collector's license
One NOV Not recycling in accordance with regulation 109-92

Recycling – Mixed paper tonnages for the residential program during the past 52 weeks are as follows:

CURRENT PERIOD	POUNDS PER HOUSEHOLD	CORRESPONDING PERIOD PREVIOUS YEAR
12/24/01-1/18/02	9.58	9.51
1/21/02-2/15/02	9.01	9.78
2/18/02-3/15/02	9.02	9.41
3/18/02-4/12/02	9.73	9.87
4/15/02-5/10/02	9.81	9.68
5/13/02-6/07/02	9.58	10.19
6/10/02-7/05/02	9.21	9.21
7/08/02-8/02/02	8.74	8.62
8/05/02-8/30/02	9.24	9.10
9/02/02-9/27/02	10.15	10.08
9/30/02-10/25/02	10.45	11.10
10/28/02-11/22/02	11.04	10.83
11/25/02-12/20/02	11.74	11.52

Web Site - The following is information gathered from the Montgomery County Solid Waste web site through the month of December:

List Memberships	
HHW Announcements	245
Holiday Reminder List	1,548
Newsletter Helper	39

Usage Counters – December 2002	
Number of Hits	3,255
Number of Page Views	5,484
Among the most frequently visited pages were:	
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Recycling (568)• Trash (524)• Holiday collection information (471)• HHW (220)• Paper recycling (129)	
E-Mail – December 2002	
Top Issues : Holiday/Snow Schedule changes, Leaf Vacuuming	45
Blue Bins	185

Comments we received in December included:

- The [Collection Day] Lookup feature was quick and efficient. Great service!
- Thank you so much for this wonderful website [and email list service]. Not only does it help me keep track of what is going on: but, I have a retired neighbor I keep informed also.
- I'm GRATEFUL for all this [holiday/snow collection day change] information, and I am so PROUD of Montgomery County for their recycling program! Thanks!
- I know providing this [collection change notification] service is a lot of work, but from a county resident's viewpoint, it's one of the greatest services. Thanks for the support. In the past couple weeks, it's been great to just read my emails and see if I have to put out my trash or wait a day.
- Great job! You deserve a commendation for providing up-to-date info on the snow policy pickup. I wish all web sites were as reliable as yours. Keep up the good work.
- I received your green direct mail postcard. I love how environmentally minded our county is. Thank you, and keep up the good work!

WASTE MINIMIZATION

Bicycle Recycling – Pedals for Progress picked up 1.29 tons of bikes in December.

Computer Recycling – Approximately 33 tons of computers were recycled.

Hg-Free Campaign – The program offering digital thermometers in exchange for mercury-containing thermometers continues to enjoy active public support and participation.

Department of Environmental Protection's Home Composting and Source Reduction Activities – The Green Man Show continues to air daily on Cable Channel 6. A complete schedule for the program is available online at <http://greenmanshow.com> with a link to the show in simulcast streaming video format.

The Green Man column with recommendations on alternative (resource conserving) landscaping continues in several Maryland editions of The Gazette Newspapers and on the web at both <http://www.gazette.net/columnists/> and <http://greenman.askdep.com>.

HAZARDOUS WASTE PROGRAMS

Household Hazardous Waste Collection – One HHW event was held December 1st at the Transfer Station.

Small Quantity Generator Ecowise Program – One Small Quantity Generator (SQG)/Ecowise event was held on December 11, 2002.

AIR PERMITS AND ENVIRONMENTAL PROGRAMS

Resource Recovery Facility (RRF): CEMS Tracking of RRF Operations - The Continuous Emissions Monitoring System (CEMS) continued to track the percent load, certain engineering parameters and emissions of all three units. All 3 units were operating until December 5th at approximately 3 p.m. when a spike in the Carbon Monoxide (CO) level for unit 2 occurred indicating that the unit was being brought offline. Discussions with Covanta staff indicated that the unit was brought down for scheduled maintenance. Subsequently, the CEMS recorded emissions and other parameters from units 1 and 3 until December 12th. At approximately 7 p.m. on December 12th, a CO spike for unit 1 was noticed indicating that this unit was being brought offline. Covanta indicated that the unit was brought down to replace broken grate bars. Subsequently, only unit 3 operated for the next 22 hours until approximately 5 p.m. on December 13th when the CEMS started recording data for unit 1 indicating that the unit was brought back online after the broken grate bars were replaced. Thereafter, the CEMS showed that units 1 and 3 continued to operate until 4 a.m. on December 16th when the CEMS started recording data for unit 2 indicating that the unit was brought back online. Thereafter, the CEMS recorded emissions and other parameters for all 3 units until the end of the month. There were no other equipment malfunctions that affected emissions from the facility.

On December 18th, Covanta performed the monthly "Opacity Test". The opacity test is a requirement under Title V of the RRF Air Permit. As in past tests, the opacity readings were 0% compared to the Title V Permit limit of 10%.

In the first week of December, the set of four CEMS CD-ROM's were updated to include CEMS data up to November 30, 2002. Copies of the CD's were placed in the Rockville and Poolesville libraries and distributed to FIG -SWAC Air Quality Subcommittee members.

FIG-SWAC Air Quality Subcommittee – In December, copies of the Non-Air Media Monitoring Report were placed in County's public libraries. ENSR is expected to submit the draft report on the "RRF Update of the Multiple Pathway Health Risk Study" by mid-January. It will be mailed to the Subcommittee members by the third week of January.

The five-year frequency Ambient Air Monitoring Program began on December 10th. Permission was received from the Beallsville Fire Department and the Lucketts Elementary School for the installation of air sampling stations. As per the recommendations of the Air Quality Subcommittee, dioxins and trace metals will be monitored over a 30-day period.

Oaks Landfill Energy Recovery Facility: Leachate Evaporation Technology - For the entire month of December, the leachate evaporator remained shutdown. The ground-flare without leachate evaporation was operating for 24 days. On December 11th, the ground flare went down at approximately 1 p.m. because of electric power

failure. Therefore, backup flare could not be started, and for about 20 hours, uncontrolled emissions were released into the ambient air. At about 9 a.m. on December 12th, power came back and the backup flare was started. It operated till the end of the month.

Contracts and RFP's – ENSR was originally scheduled to conduct the fall air sampling program; because of sniper attacks in October, the program was abandoned. ENSR will conduct the winter sampling program in the December – January time frame, and a draft report by May 1st. Because of the 3-month delay, the Department is planning to extend ENSR's contract until May 15, 2003.

DSWS staff is currently reviewing the three proposals received in response to a RFP for a replacement contractor for ENSR. Contractor selection is expected by February 2003.

RECYCLING

Public Outreach – The Recycling Task Force met on December 18, 2002. The Task Force has finalized recommendations to present to the County Executive on January 28, 2003.

Commercial Recycling and Waste Reduction – Staff continued to perform on-site visits of businesses in December and resolved several complaints. Annual report forms were sent to all large and medium-sized businesses as well as some selected small-businesses that are required to file an annual recycling and waste reduction report covering calendar year 2002. Work began on a multi-media campaign designed to inform businesses of the regulatory requirements which will begin in mid-January. Work was completed on the winter issue of the SORRT Network Newsletter.

Multi-Family Recycling – Staff continued to provide daily on-site technical assistance and outreach to multi-family property managers. Final edits are being performed on the latest edition of the TRRAC Newsletter. Work continues on the Multi-Family Property Manager Recycling Seminar scheduled for February 25, 2003. Preparations have begun for a pilot program for blue bag recycling to assess the effects in participation, contamination, and quantities collected.

Mixed Paper Recycling – Educational materials (including a flyer, 2 brochures and a booklet) highlighting the do's and don'ts of mixed paper recycling at the curb, and a paper bag printed with the do's and don'ts of mixed paper recycling continue to be distributed to residents directly and through some grocery stores.

Volunteer Activities – Due to the weather and the holidays, volunteer activity was slow. One volunteer assisted at the HHW collection held at the Transfer Station this month and one volunteer provided office assistance. Planning for spring time events is in full swing.

PILOT PROGRAMS

Mixed Paper Pilot – The December totals for the Potomac toter program are:

12/04/02	19,980 lbs.	24.67 lbs. per household
12/12/02	14,320 lbs.	17.68 lbs. per household
12/18/02	20,800 lbs.	25.68 lbs. per household
12/26/02	<u>9,700 lbs.</u>	<u>11.98 lbs. per household</u>
Total	64,800 lbs.	20.00 lbs. average per household for December 2002

The current average weight per house for the 64 weeks of the toter program is 20.12 lbs. as opposed to 13.99 lbs. per house prior to the program. This represents a 43.82% increase in the mixed paper capture rate since the start of the toter program.

FACILITY ACTIVITIES

Resource Recovery Facility – Of the 51,556 tons processed in December, 244 tons were reject material from the Compost Facility. Trash deliveries have held just above 11,000 ton/week. The fall outage season concluded in December. Boiler # 2 went through a 9-day repair outage; this outage went as expected. Repairs included replacement of worn grate bars, new refractory in the firebox, and general boiler cleaning.

There were no significant safety incidents during the month. The facility continues to operate with no OSHA recordable accidents in over 1000 days.

There were no generation emergencies issued by Mirant during the month of December; there was no need to purchase power during the month.

There were no reportable air or water quality environmental excursions during the month of December.

The following environmental activities occurred:

- Conducted ash testing on December 2-6, 2002. Preliminary results indicated full compliance with lead/cadmium regulatory limits.
- Submitted the formal source test report to MDE for the testing performed October 21-30, 2002. Results indicated compliance with all regulatory standards and County emissions guarantees.
- Submitted the November 2002 Potable Water Monthly Operating Report (MOR) to MDE.
- The monthly visible emission (Method 9) observation required by the RRF's Title V Permit was performed on December 18th.
- The CEMS technician, Syl Ebron, submitted updated CD-ROM's to the County that included data for November 2002.

Materials Recovery Facility – Approximately 1,696 tons of commingled material were shipped out and approximately 6,152 tons of mixed paper were loaded out and transferred to the Office Paper Systems processing facility.

Incoming commingled tonnage for December was approximately 2,190 tons, the highest monthly amount in recent years. Consequently, to alleviate long queues of collection trucks waiting to unload material, haulers can now unload paper in two areas, as well as commingled material in two areas during peak delivery hours (11 a.m.-1 p.m.). ICF completed installation of the display wall in the information center that explains the processing system. Electrical receptacles were installed at each sorting line. The trees on the Recycling Center side of the public unloading access road were trimmed to provide a better sight line for motorists. A contractor fabricated and installed a sheet metal guard between the glass sorting chutes to prevent glass from falling onto the interior back wall. Dampers on the glass chutes were reconfigured to prevent outside air from blowing up the chutes and into the building. Mesh netting was wrapped around storage silos four and five to contain paper labels that had previously floated to the floor. The installation contractor for the new processing system made some modifications to the glass processing system and also removed some no longer used pipe-hanging supports above the pre-sort platform.

A worn section of the tipping floor was removed and replaced, along with a section of push wall near the in-feed conveyor.

Oaks Landfill – SCS Engineers met with County staff to discuss recent comments on draft design improvements to the landfill gas control system.

Bids were received for an IFB for subdividing the leachate storage lagoons to facilitate long-term maintenance. Reference checks on the low bidder were initiated.

Gude Landfill – No activities this month.

Transfer Station – During December, Covanta shipped via rail 47,806 tons of processible waste from the Transfer Station to the RRF 2,675 more tons than shipped in December 2001.

The second half of the tipping floor on the pit side that was worn down has been removed and replaced. Taking a portion of the tip floor out of service to allow concrete to be removed, re-poured and cured for several days resulted in long lines and severe crowding in the transfer building.

A damaged cylinder on compactor #2 was removed and replaced with a standby cylinder. The damaged cylinder was sent out for repairs.

Litter was collected by MES along Shady Grove Road from Route 355 to the intersection with Muncaster Mill Road.

The Transfer Station continued to receive leaves from the leaf vacuuming collection program. Due to severe winter weather, this program will continue into next month.

The radiation detectors had 15 alarms in December including 1 false alarm (an alarm that could not be re-verified) - all of the valid alarms were identified as medical isotopes with short half-lives. All of these loads were accepted.

Site 2 Landfill Properties – Forward information from the U.S. Department of Agriculture and requests from Site 2 tenants for Limited Power of Attorney, related to participation in federal farming programs to Department of Economic Development, Agricultural Services Division.

The lease for the Chiswell property is at the County Attorney's office for review.

Yard Trim Compost Facility – In December, 17,648 tons of leaves were delivered at the yard trim facility for composting; 244 tons of debris were sent to the RRF; and 683 cubic yards of Leafgro were shipped to distributors.

Fire Hydrant Installation – The contract has been awarded for the installation of the fire hydrant; a preconstruction meeting and a meeting with SCA will be held in January.

Bagging Operation – In December, 2,850 bags of Leafgro was shipped to distributors. (Each bag is 1.5 cubic ft. weighing 45 lbs.).

Linden Farm Renovations – Renovation work and painting of the barns and silos is complete. Roof repair work on the Gothic Barn is in progress.

Out-of-County Haul

Brunswick County, Virginia – During the month of December, approximately 14,032 tons of ash residue and approximately 2,780 tons of nonprocessable waste were transported to the County's dedicated disposal cell at the Brunswick Waste Management Facility, Inc. (BWMF) Landfill in Brunswick County, Virginia. Approximately 37 tons of rubble was recycled this month at Clean Earth in Hagerstown, MD. Five additional closed, 40-foot nonprocessable waste containers were ordered. Five additional chassis will be ordered to pair with the containers, pending a final decision on several design parameters. These will minimize future equipment shortages during peak periods of nonprocessable waste generation.

GENERAL INFORMATION

Important Telephone Numbers

General information on solid waste	240-777-6400
Customer Service	240-777-6410
Transfer Station	301-840-2370 (County Office) 301-590-1032 (Covanta)
Materials Recovery Facility	301-840-2701 (County Office) 301-417-1447 (MES)
Resource Recovery Facility	240-777-6494 (County Office) 301-916-3031 (Covanta)
Yard Trim Compost Facility	301-428-8185 (MES)
Internet for DSWS	www.mcrecycles.org

Note: All comments, questions, and suggestions on the contents of this report should be addressed to:

Theresa Souders
Department of Public Works and Transportation
Division of Solid Waste Services
101 Monroe Street, 6th Floor
Rockville, MD 20850
Tel: 240-777-6425
Fax: 240-777-6465
E-mail: Theresa.Souders@co.mo.md.us

SOLID WASTE FACTS IN A NUTSHELL

TOPIC OR FACILITY	
Latest Recycling Rate Reported in Montgomery County	37.2% (FY01)
Recycling Goal	45% by December 2002 50% by December 2004
Resource Recovery Facility (RRF)	Guaranteed Capacity = 85% of 1800 TPD on an annual basis (558,450 tons/yr).
Yard Trim Composting Facility (YTCF)	Operations limited to receipt of 77,000 tons/year under Sugarloaf Settlement Agreement. FY02 tons received- 63,633
# Residences receiving trash collection by County contractors	84,872
# Residences receiving collection of recyclables in blue bins and yard waste collection	201,981
Term of out-of-county waste transportation and disposal contract with Brunswick Waste Management Facility, Inc.	June 19, 1997 through June 30, 2012 with an option for a five-year renewal. (Service started on October 20, 1997.)

GLOSSARY OF ACRONYMS

AAR	American Ash Recycling, Inc.
APC	Air Pollution Control
ASME	American Society of Mechanical Engineers
CDL	Commercial Driver's License
CEMS	Continuous Emissions Monitoring System
CFR	Code of Federal Regulation
CIP	Capital Improvements Program
COG	Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments
CSX	Chesapeake Transportation Systems
DEP	Department of Environmental Protection
DFS	Division of Facilities and Services
DNR	Maryland Department of Natural Resources
DSWS	Division of Solid Waste Services
DTS	Department of Technology Services
EPA	Environmental Protection Agency
FIG	Facilities Implementation Group
HCFA	Health Care Financing Administration
HHW	Household Hazardous Waste
IFB	Invitation For Bid
IPM	Integrated Pest Management
LFG	Landfill Gas
LTTS	Leachate Thermal Treatment System
MCPS	Montgomery County Public Schools
MCR	Maximum Continuous Rating
MDE	Maryland Department of Environment
MES	Maryland Environmental Service
Mg/l	milligrams per liter
M-NCPPC	Maryland National Capital Park and Planning Commission
MRF	Materials Recovery Facility
MWh	Mega Watt hours
NIST	National Institute of Standards and Technology
NMWDA	Northeast Maryland Waste Disposal Authority
NOV	Notice of Violation
NPDES	National Pollution Discharge Elimination System
NTP	Notice to Proceed
OMB	Office of Management and Budget
OPS	Office Paper Systems
PEPCO	Potomac Electric Power Company
ppmv	parts per million volume
PSA	Public Service Announcement
RATA	Relative Accuracy Test Audit
RFP	Request for Proposal
ROL	Reduced Operating Level
RRF	Resource Recovery Facility
SCA	Sugarloaf Citizens Association
SHA	State Highway Administration
SORRT	Smart Organizations Reduce and Recycle Tons
SDAT	State Department of Assessments and Taxation
SWAC	Solid Waste Advisory Committee
TXA170	Computer Interface Program
TCLP	Toxic Characteristic Leaching Procedure
TPD	Tons Per Day
TRRAC	Think Reduce and Recycle at Apartments and Condominiums
UT	Ultra-sonic Testing
YTCF	Yard Trim Composting Facility